

**ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

An apparatus and a method are provided for performing network routing. The present invention comprises authentication logic, decision logic and routing logic. The authentication logic is configured to receive packets sent from a source agent to a tunnel endpoint and to determine whether or not the security association corresponds to the source agent that configured the tunnel. The decision logic makes a routing decision that is constrained based on the security association of an authenticated. The routing logic then selects a routing destination for the authenticated packet that is based at least partially on the routing decision made by the decision.

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